Lifestyle — Made-to-measure, precision-fit dazzlers
Across / A17 — NFA rebels storm Nueva Ecija town hall, police station
News / A2 — Gov't declares ceasefire from Dec. 16 to Jan. 5
Entertainment — Fans whisper 'thank you, FPJ'
Business / B1 — Oil firms reject calls for price rollback
News / A3 — Palace declares Dec. 24 and Dec. 27 special non-working days

SC orders gov't to return Journal group to owners

By Philip C. Tubeza and Julie Lalog-Javellana

Funeral convoy to stop by a place loved by FPJ

By Christian V. Esguerra

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, December 17, 2004

Angry Susan speaks out

Widow hits ABS-CBN for biased election reporting



THE LOOK of love and loss defines the face of Susan Roces as she goes straight to her husband's casket upon arriving at Sto. Domingo Church on Thursday, which also marked the couple's 36th wedding anniversary.

Mourners stream on; orderly lines restored

By Luige A. del Puerto and Christian V. Esguerra

Court OKs Erap visit to FPJ wake but not burial

By Armand N. Nocum

Lowering flag for Poe violates law, rules NHI

By Ambeth R. Ocampo
Chair, National Historical Institute

COMMENTARY



Cigarette wreath for 105-year-old smoker



THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS: The "simbang gabi" (dawn Masses) on Thursday, Dec. 16 ... marks the start in the country of the nine-day novena in preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ.

GMA to sign 'sin tax' bill into law before Christmas

By Michael Lim Ubac

20-day holiday truce is on

By Christian V. Esguerra

WEARY soldiers and policemen yesterday welcomed Malacañang's declaration of a 20-day unilateral Christmas ceasefire with communist insurgents.

[illegible]

5 in GenSan blast arrested

By Christian V. Esguerra

[illegible]

Empty-handed

[illegible]

MILF link

[illegible]

Britons warned anew against travel to South

By TJ Burgonio

[illegible]

Justice in Erap case appointed Sandigan chief

By Armand N. Nocum

DOJ on new Nida witness: 'Explosive'

By Philip C. Tubeza

Long Christmas break declared

Corrections



[illegible]

All systems go for Erap surgery in HK

By Armand Nocum

[illegible]



ESTRADA

Court OKs Erap visit to FPJ wake but not burial

From page A1

[illegible]

Discipline

[illegible]

Destabilization

[illegible]

Cigarette ...

From page A1

[illegible]

Enigmatic

[illegible]

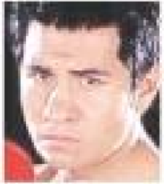
SPORTS

Two-man race tipped for Buhain's PSC position

2005 REMATCH

Barrera: Pacquiao bout top priority





Press freedom comes at high price for endangered RP journalists

Sad fact

2 coal miners rescued

Pagasa to issue gale warnings

By Norman Bordadora

GMA to sign 'sin tax' bill into law before Christmas

First, most important

Rates for tobacco

Effective after holidays

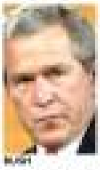
SC orders gov't to return Journal group of newspapers to owners

Palace abides by decision

The WORLD

US missile defense plan ends in failure

Bush warns Iran, Syria to stop 'meddling' in Iraq



BUSH

Pakistan, India agree to start nuclear hotline

World seeing worst weather, disasters, experts say

[illegible]

JAWS ATTACK



Japan eyes economic sanctions vs N. Korea

[illegible]

Softball powerhouses collide



Belasco keys San Miguel's Dagupan win

Wizards stop Eagles, grab PBL top spot



Paragua retains lead

One night with FPJ

SPECTATOR



EAC shows way for 2 others in q'finals

La Salle spikers survive Legends

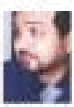
Tanpinco ahead by 4


TANPINCO

Jewelers clip Snipers, close in on URBL title

8th Samsung International Jungolf slated at WW east

S'woods Chairman's Cup today



Empire King rules


CLEAN LIVING
Manolo R. Iñigo

Raptors upset Timberwolves

TORONTO—Chris Bosh had a season-high 24 points and 14 rebounds in Toronto's 96-90 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday, in a game in which the Raptors' Matt Bonner was ejected for flagrantly fouling Kevin Garnett.

After Bonner knocked Garnett to the floor with 5:24 left in the fourth, Garnett went after the rookie. Official Anthony Jordan and Raptors coach Sam Mitchell held Garnett back, but Latrell Sprewell ran toward Bonner and pushed him.

In Cleveland, LeBron James scored 12 of his 25 points in less than three minutes of the third quarter and Ira Newble added a season-high 18 as Cleveland won its ninth straight at home, 112-88.

In Boston, Carmelo Anthony's 15-foot (4.5-meter) jumper with 3.6 seconds remaining gave Denver a 100-99 win over the Celtics.

In Washington, Dwyane Wade had 29 points and nine assists as Miami won its sixth straight game, 98-83, over Washington.

In New York, Chauncey Billups hit two freethrows with 2.6 seconds left in Detroit's 94-93 triumph over the Knicks.

In New Orleans, Dan Dickau scored a career-best 23 points and New Orleans won its first home game of the season, 98-89, over Golden State.



GARNETT

In Memphis, Tennessee, Eddy Curry had 20 points, while Kirk Hinrich and Ben Gordon each had 15 to lift Chicago past Memphis, 96-88.

In Houston, Tracy McGrady had 25 points and Yao Ming scored 23 to lead Houston to a 92-69 rout of Atlanta.

In San Antonio, Tim Duncan had 24 points and 14 rebounds to lead San Antonio to a 94-91 squeaker over Orlando.

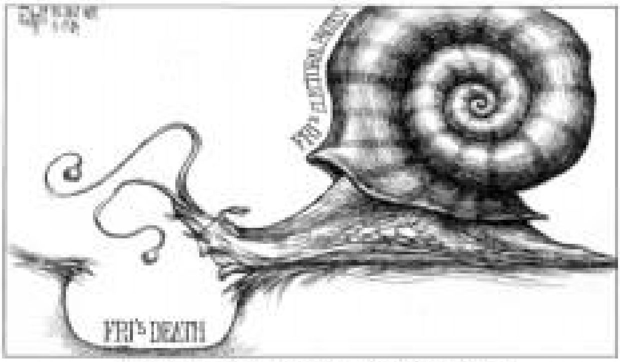
In Phoenix, Joe Johnson had a season-high 30 points, and Phoenix improved to a league-best 19-3 after crushing Utah, 108-86. *AP*

Pasay derby on today

MORE than 80 heart-pounding matches will spice up the grand championship of the Pasko sa Pasay 4-Cock Derby which starts at 1 p.m. today. After two days of action, 22 participants from a field of 109 remained unbeaten with two victories each. Backing up the event are sponsors Sagupaan Compexor 3000, Sagupaan B-50 Forten and Sagupaan Mite Free. About 30 new participants will field straight four cocks today. Another 4-cock derby will be on Dec. 20, followed by the Super One-Cock Ulutan on Jan. 12. For other inquiries, contact 8431890, 8431746 and 8166750.

INQUIRER

OPINION



Politics of grief

EDITORIAL

Mercy missions without fanfare

AS I SEE IT



Neal H. Cruz

Requiem for a reluctant hero

PASSION FOR REASON



Raul C. Pangalangan

Highest lake in the world

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

Policy is also to blame

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Late bloomer

HIGH BLOOD

Lilia P. de Vera

Hard sell, no sale

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Last chance for Christmas shopping

Plebiscite on mining urged

LETTERS

NPA's double-faced war

Why just now?

On the passing of 'Da King'

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

NPA rebels raid N. Ecija town hall

Baguio to patent festival name

4 Garcia cars can't be found

Former Batangas vice mayor slain

Lower power rates seen

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Consumers of the Central Negros Electric Cooperative can expect lower electric rates next year after the Energy Regulatory Commission approved its application to have its loan condoned.

This was disclosed by ERC chair Rodolfo Albano Jr. in a letter received on Wednesday by Bacolod City Rep. Monico Puentevella.

Ceneco manager Henry Sia said the amount condoned is close to P300 million. The reduction in electric rates would be implemented in February 2005 after the ERC shall have made permanent the resolution that condoned the loans incurred by Ceneco.

Albano said in the letter that the ERC approved Ceneco's application for its loan to be condoned during its board meeting on Nov. 19.

This is in line with Executive Order No. 119 signed by President Macapagal-Arroyo on Aug. 28 that supported the restructuring program of electric cooperatives, Albano said.

Under EO 119, the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. was mandated to assume the outstanding loans of all electric cooperatives from the National Electrification Administration and other government agencies that were incurred to finance their respective rural electrification programs, he said.

Defensor dared: Run after Quezon loggers

ANTITERROR MEASURE

Phones, bags banned in churches

Gunman shoots dead Australian, self in Antique



PRODUCT DISPLAY



Lowering flag for Poe violates law, rules NHI

No legal basis

Buck stops in 2 places

NHI resolution

The qualified

Not qualified

15 minutes of fame yearly

Angry, hurt Susan speaks out

Timing of offer

Snub ABS-CBN

Mourners stream on; orderly lines restored

National Artist

Staying together

Funeral convoy to stop by a place loved by FPJ

Like 'Oplan Kaluluwa'

Crowd control

Medicine student found dead of 19 stab wounds in QC home



Paralytic dies in fire

METRO

Scions of pols, cager in shooting spree

Guns released

Unaware

Three firearms

Nailed

Xmas merrier for 304 Manilans





'Warm-up' MMFF workshops held in Baguio

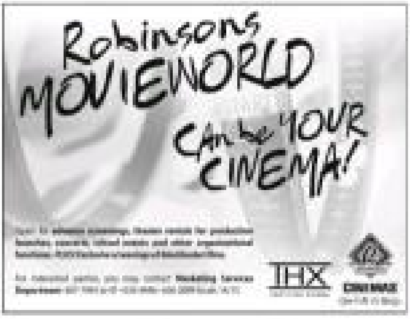
VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre



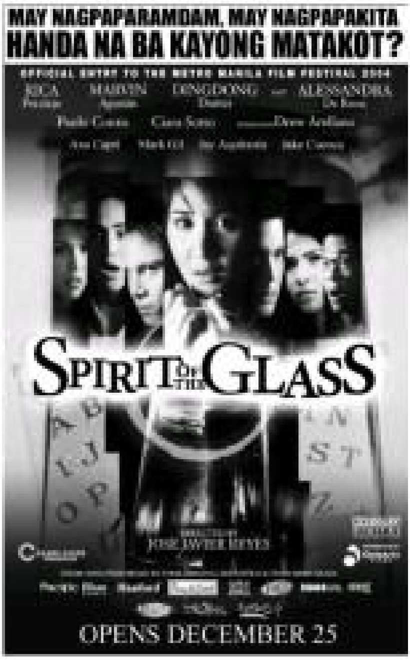
[illegible]

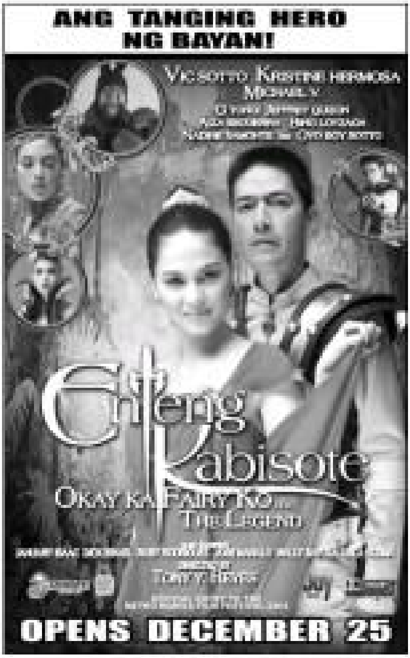
SHOW TIME











Business

Oil firms buck calls for price rollback

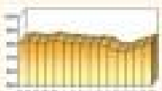
Lucio Tan joins bid for Del Monte stake

Currencies



GOLD

Stock Market



Shares end higher on new tobacco, alcohol tax

Malaysian takes 67% of SLEX holding firm

Kapitan stops BIR auction

COCKTALES



Victor C. Agustin

OIL EXPLORATION

HK-listed firm bags contract



By Abigail L. Ho

FOLLOWING the reversal of an earlier Supreme Court decision barring foreign firms from engaging in the mining business, the Department of Energy on Wednesday awarded an oil and gas exploration contract to South Sea Petroleum Holdings Ltd.

The DOE formally awarded Service Contract No. 49 to the Hong Kong-listed firm after President Macapagal-Arroyo gave the go-ahead to do so.

With the awarding of the service contract, the firm can now proceed with oil and gas exploration efforts over the Agusan-Davao Basin in Davao.

"This is indeed a welcome news for us, as it assures the people that the search for reliable and indigenous supply of fuel is a continuing effort. The contribution of foreign companies is very significant. We hope this will result in successful development of our oil and gas resources," Energy Secretary

CONTINUED ON B?

NOTICE TO MAYNILAD WATER CUSTOMERS AND THE PUBLIC
NEW WATER RATES FOR THE WEST ZONE

[illegible]

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible]

DISCLOSURES

[illegible]

* * *

BANK of the Philippine Islands declared regular cash dividends of P0.90 per share on total outstanding shares, payable to stockholders of record 15 days after receipt of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas approval.

* * *

[illegible] a director of Prudential Bank, bought [illegible] shares of Prudential Bank on Dec. 15. She now has a total of [illegible] shares.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Tobacco Flue-Curing and Redrying Corp. will hold its annual stockholders meeting on Jan. 27, 2005 at 2 p.m. at its principal office on 922 A. Bonifacio St., Balintawak, Quezon City. *Compiled by D.J. Yap, PDI Research*

FOREX

[illegible]

BUSINESS Friday

The ad that made you buy that milk may not be true





Misleading claims

Vitamin C claims

Need for vigilance

DEBT SERVICING UP

BOP deficit swells to $459M as of end-November



BUENAVENTURA



DOF to support Masinloc plant deal

Gravity theory leads to the grave

COMMENTARY

Empirical findings

Cross-country analysis

Analysis

Gravity Theory results

Common points

BIR bucks BCDA plea to defer tax payments

Cocktales

Citibank as punching bag

Heard through the grapevine

Canadian firm eyes stake in Lepanto project

BSP keeps policy rates unchanged



Bayer unit putting up seed production plant



HK-listed firm bags contract

Superferry 8 upgrade gets BOI incentives

EPCIBank sells another ₱2.2B worth of assets to Lehman

Gov't preparing bond float for 2005 funding requirement

Lucio Tan . . .

10 TRADE MISSIONS

Philippines-Japan investment talks gain ground



MORE Japanese firms now want to explore possibilities of doing business in the country

Piltel may cut NTC payment by P500M

LBP to extend more loans to agri sector

LIFESTYLE

Editor: Cecilia Bulos-Formoso





How to make sense of hair products sold in salons, drugstores and supermarkets? Expert Henri Calayag dispenses advice on how to use them



Do-it-yourself salon locks



THE DOWNSIDE of even the most expensive haircut is achieving that straight-out-of-the-salon look the day after, and every day thereafter.

[illegible]

Seek help

[illegible]



LifeStyle

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: Inquirer file, send text message to 2333 (Globe) or 383 (Smart)

Made-to-measure dazzlers

Gemologist Sandra Olfato's precision-fit jewelry delivers glowing results and happy clients



ROMANTIC: Victorian-inspired pattern bangle; diamond baguette tapers; round brilliant cluster accent bangle; "Temporale," a reverse cross especially designed for a client for a memorable event that happened on a stormy night

By Anne A. Jambora

WHILE the exclusivity of especially designed trinkets distinctly speaks for the character of its wearer, an exacting gemologist crafts jewelry into perfection. Dangling earrings gracefully fall where they should or a necklace flows fluidly around the neck, thanks to precise measurements.

Ten years ago, upon finishing an earring design with three kinds of large-sized colored stones specifically requested by a client, gemologist Sandra F. Olfato was baffled why one earring faced the front and the other turned sideways. Trying different backings didn't work. The displeased client, naturally, no longer wanted to purchase the item.

"So I measured the ear hole in the ear lobe, up and down, and the thickness of the lobe of the left ear and the right ear then made all the adjustments at the back. The ear, it turned out, was not parallel," Olfato recalls.

Although the client waited much longer for the earrings to fit her ears, the end result was so satisfactory that soon, by word of mouth, Olfato's reputation in the business was established.

Experience and patience

Olfato is a graduate gemologist of the Gemological Institute of America in New York. She is the managing director of PSJ [illegible] Design & Gemological Consultancy, at 2/L Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati, where her growing clientele continually turns to her for expertise in the various fields of jewelry and jewelry making.

Five out of 10 people have measurements for the left ear that's different from the right, she says. Same thing with the neck, where the sloping of the neck—not the thickness—decides how a necklace smoothly drapes over the shoulders. The same goes for bangles and bracelets, where wrist measurements are required to determine the most comfortable fit.

It may sound like a very time-consuming ordeal and all for that flawless fit, but only through years of experience and inexhaustible patience can one develop a keen sense of how various metals and stones and their numerous combinations and designs exactly behave when worn.

"It's a tedious and taxing science—and very personalized. It makes the customer happy," Olfato says.

PSJ also offers jewelry appraisal, a valuation and appraisal report for insurance and insurance purposes, and

[illegible]







Made-to-measure dazzlers



True passion



SPARKLING evening purses





LIFESTYLE

Christmas shopping without tears

Do your holiday purchases in one bang by checking into a hotel right in the heart of the shopping district

WHAT is the best way to do your Christmas shopping in Makati?





REST for the wicked shopaholic is a rewarding experience in this Oakwood suite bedroom.

Christmas shopping without tears

From page C1

a Christmas shopping list that includes extended families, countless inaanaks and important business contacts, Makati is a shopper's mecca. Yes, it is associated with the high-end stores at Glorietta and Greenbelt 4 but it also has a number of value places. To name a few: Landmark which has among the largest and most varied selections of Christmas decor this year; the new SM with all the branding and shopping space you want (what a visual delight); its related anchor stores—Toy Kingdom and Ace Hardware for the children and men in your life. Add to that Rustan's and the Goldcrest complex where a number of Greenhills outlets maintain branches. The aggregation of all these stores in one area just simply makes it worth an overnight stay.

Furthermore, the newly opened Market! Market!, where one can find truly priceless bags at great prices, is just a short drive away.

To maximize our time, we used the afternoon after check in to head for the places that would surely fill up after 5 p.m.—Toy Kingdom (metal toy trucks for as low as P95); SM's men's section; then Landmark's third floor for home items (vases as low as P80, ornaments at about the same price range and less) and clothes for the children ("dry-fit" basketball shorts for as low as P180, the same thing goes for double the price at regular athletic stores). As soon as the office crowd began trickling in, we headed for the less crowd-prone Rustan's Department Store's home section for kitchen gadgets and home items (yes, you can find items for P500 that look like they would go for double the price).

What a joy it was to be able to stash the items from each store at the ground floor lobby of the Oakwood then head off for the next store. Freed from the hassles of retrieving and storing packages, we could move much quicker. That night, our Oakwood suite was a good place to recount and assess the shopping we had accomplished and the items that still had to be bought the next day.

We decided our main meal for the next day would be the very popular Oakwood breakfast with its array of fruits, breads, hot and cold dishes including freshly-cooked salmon. At 10 a.m., we were back at SM and Toy Kingdom which is relatively crowd-free before noon.

Man, nevertheless, does not live on value places alone. We could not resist visiting the Digital Exchange of Glorietta 3 which is a showcase of the latest gadgets from Nokia, Samsung and other techie manufacturers as well as the trendier stores of Greenbelt—Marina, Kish and Pineapple. To our surprise, there were items less than P500 in the Greenbelt boutiques that would make great gifts.

We had hoped to have time for a visit to the new Ayala Museum. But we were not able to proceed beyond the gift shop with its art-inspired stationery, plates and decor.

Undeterred by all the walking we had done in air-conditioned comfort within Oakwood and the Ayala Center as well as the tasks we had accomplished, we were ready to head home. We told ourselves we surely could get used to this.



SHOP for fashionable phones like the latest from Nokia at the Hub by Globe Telecom in Glorietta 3 and Greenbelt 3



FOR someone who likes to tree-the-kith photos, get this red photo envelope (left) from Kate Spade, 1/L Greenbelt. Buy leather cleaner at Coach, 1/L, Greenbelt 4.





YVES Saint Laurent's Baby Doll is a light-hearted fragrance which has spawned three versions of the fruity-floral scent: Baby Doll Light, Baby Doll Fairytale and Baby Doll Light Limited Edition. Available at Rustan's, which is next door to Oakwood.



LOOKING for books to give as Christmas? National Book Store in Glorietta 1 is just around the corner from Oakwood.



WELL-APPOINTED living room at Oakwood Suites: Great for recovering and assessing how far you've gone in your shopping



FOR the fashionista, Longchamp's geometrically perforated Black Onyx bag with shocking-pink silk lining in calfskin leather and cowhide—also in black/pink (or black/taupe), available at Rustan's







Natural à la mode

Kakuyasu Uchide, Shu Uemura's handsome chief makeup artist, shows why Reveries can be fleeting

KAKUYASU Uchide at work (top left)

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Jon Eulan Punzalan

LEADING Japanese makeup brand Shu Uemura has derived inspiration from the iridescent quality of water for Reveries, its latest mode makeup line for next spring and summer. Natural colors inspired by the earth's pristine environment shimmer with a pearlized quality that highlights the face and imparts it with a soft, lyrical expression.

Kakuyasu Uchide, Shu Uemura International's chief makeup artist, flew in recently from Tokyo to explain the concept to makeup junkies and the brand's loyalists. Such a conceptual approach veered from the usual practice of pushing a certain look or palette of colors.

And unlike most makeup artists from other brands, Uchide didn't focus on a facial feature of the moment either. He's more than just an



FOR THE FANTASY finish, the last look for the shoot, Shu Uemura's Xang Zulueta uses almost all shades from the Reverie collection.



UCHIDE'S version of Easter-merchandise is from the Chic and Rouge line: 744 foundation, colorless loose powder and Luster Gold powder as base; Purple 715, glow-on blush in Orange 55 and pressed eye shadow in Gold 265 on the eyes and cheeks; and Rouge 4 lipstick in 135 topped with lip gloss in Amber Gold for pretty lips.

Natural à la mode

From page C8

"ambassador of beauty" as he considers himself an artist in the mold of his mentor and company founder Shu Uemura.

The handsome Uchide, who still looks youthful at 39, joined the company 18 years ago after finishing a degree in—of all courses—pre-law. He joined Shu Uemura as an entry point in a career in fashion, which was then a booming industry in Japan. Like most men, he wasn't inclined to do makeup until he met the man behind the brand.

Being one among the first batch of fresh grads recruited to join the company, Uchide and his group naturally became Uemura's sounding board as the old man worked on infusing the brand with young blood. Unlike most seasoned artists, he continues to value and welcome fresh ideas. The admiration was mutual, as the apprentice found himself slowly being drawn to the once alien but lovely world of makeup.

Is he, well, gay? Perish the thought. Uchide is aware that "99 percent" of male makeup artists around the world are. In Japan, however, only 50 percent fall in that category. That's how forward-looking Japanese men are. Not that he has anything against his more colorful colleagues, but Uchide insists he's straight.

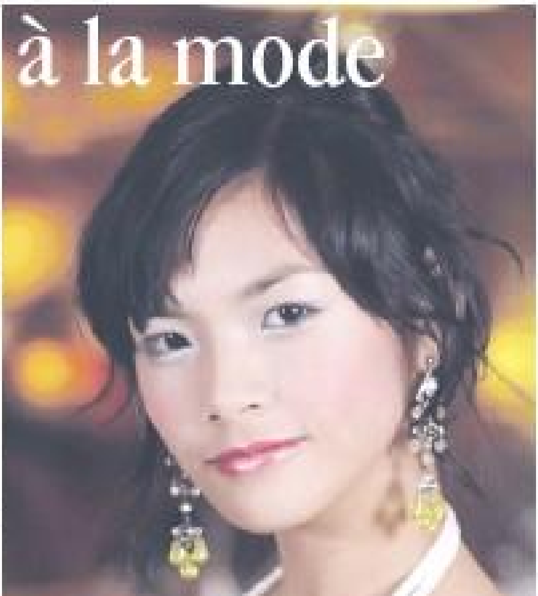
Not once has he been mistaken for a gay, at least not to his face. If that happens, Uchide says he'll merely laugh it off. If you're still in doubt, however, you can ask his Japanese girlfriend for 11 years. The couple has been living together for some years now.

"Doing makeup has nothing to do with sexuality," he says in Japanese. "You're enriching yourself and the people around you when you create something beautiful. I consider it my small contribution to making the world a better place by helping create beautiful things that can bring pleasure to other people."

No spin-offs

An artist naturally begets art. Thus, no spin-offs are likely to come from this latest collection, the 110th edition since Uemura introduced the mode makeup line in the 1960s. The line, which is sold for a limited time only, is different from the brand's extensive array of regular eye shadows, lipsticks, blushers and nail polish that now number in the hundreds.

"The mode makeup line is usually based on a theme that Mr. Uemura and his team came up with," says Tina Tinio, Shu Uemura's brand manager in the Philippines. "They feel that this theme best represents the mood for the coming year. As far as they're concerned, there are no rules when it comes to mood makeup."



FOR THE BLUSHING bride, Zulueta uses more user-friendly colors such as Metallic Yellow and Metallic gold eye shadows, Orange 55 on the cheeks, Rouge 4 and Jasmine Gold on the lips.

And what exactly is this mood all about? Since the inspiration comes from water and how light is reflected on it, luminous colors were designed to change hues depending on the angle of the face and how light falls on it. These are no radical colors, mind you. The difference, says Tinio, is in the new product's texture.

"Part of my job," says Uchide, "is also to formulate the products. The mode makeup's inspiration for next year will definitely come from colors naturally found on earth. There will be less of the artificial colors and more of greens, blues, beiges and yellows that remind us of nature."

And rightly so since every mode makeup line is as ephemeral as the fleeting scenes of the changing seasons. Not that Tinio and company want to induce panic buying, but most of the products from past mode makeup collections were never reissued despite a demand. Unlike the seasons, once they're gone, they're gone forever.

E-mail the author at wvergara@inquirer.com.ph



RADIANT reflection, Uchide's second look, is from the Reverie line: same base, Blue 645, Green 512 and Yellow 227 on the eye area; Pink 30A on the cheeks for a luminous look; Lolishine Rouge 361 and Blue Eye-Light pencil to color and line the lips.



CORPORATE chic finds our model wearing Zulueta's take on office basics: Metallic Yellow and Metallic Gold on the eyes; Orange 55 for a sun-kissed look on the cheeks; and Rouge 4 179 and Jasmine Gold on the lips.